Volume 86 • Monday, September 9, 1996 • Number 3

The McGill Daily

Ya basta! since 1911

Virage, anyone?

PQ MAY INCREASE TUITION FEES, SLASH SPENDING

by M-J Milloy [CUPbeq bureau] & Anup Grewal, McGill Daily

The Parti-Québécois may be about to break the final links to its socially progressive past in the name of deficit reduction. Documents obtained by a Montréal newspaper indicate that the Québec government is planning to cut over $1 billion from health and education ministries in the next budget.

University and college students may be the hardest hit in the $700 million cut to education alone.

"We've received inside information that [education minister Pauline] Marois is planning a five to 10 per cent increase [in tuition fees] for next year, and 30 per cent over three years," said Chantal da Silva, vp external of McGill's student association.

When questioned about the rumours, Marois refused to rule out the possibility of tuition fee increases. Although she said that the government has "taken no decisions towards the idea of tuition increases," she "would not exclude" fee hikes as a possibility.

PQ FLIPFLOPS

If they come about, tuition fee increases would signal a massive about-face in the social policy of the Parti-Québecois. For almost 20 years, the PQ maintained their promised freeze on tuition for post-secondary students at Quebec's English and French universities and colleges.

Although students have had to occasionally take to the streets to hold successive Québec governments to their promise, the freeze has meant that the doors to Québec's post-secondary schools are the widest of any province. On average, Québec students pay the lowest tuition of any students in Canada and, consequently, Québec has the highest rate of student participation in the country.

Although most student representatives were caught offguard by the news, they quickly voiced unanimous scorn for the plan of Marois and Finance Minister Bernard Landry.

"These cuts will further pass the burden of the cost of education onto the individual student," said Brad Lavigne, president of the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS).

The heads of the largest student associations inside Québec agreed with Lavigne.

"Either one per cent or 10 per cent, it's unacceptable," said Patricio Salgado, the president of FEUQ, la Fédération Étudiante Universitaire du Québec, the province's largest university student association.

Although there are currently no tuition fees for College d'enseignement général et professionel (CEGEP) students, they already pay a wide range of 'ancillary fees', like lab and activity fees. Further costs for CEGEP students, either in the implementation of tuition or higher ancillary fees, is alarming and unacceptable as well, according to Etienne Gagnon, the president of, FECQ, a CEGEP student alliance.

Da Silva concurred, arguing that students are already bearing more than their fair share of the government's deficit cutting agenda. Two thirds of Québec students work to pay for their education, and almost 80 per cent have annual incomes less than $10 000 each year, she noted. Also, most students in Québec live under the poverty line.

"What more do they want us to do?" she wondered.

WORMING ITS WAY OUT

Both Lavigne and da Silva observed that the Québec government has already started to erode the spirit of the tuition freeze in several different ways.

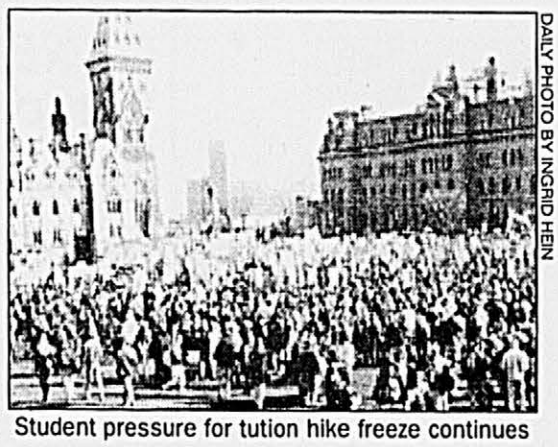
"Marois has already stopped loans for Québec students studying out of province, and other loans and bursaries have been cut as well," she said.

At the CEGEP level, Lavigne noted that for years the government has raised more revenue by increasing ancillary fees, all the while proclaiming that they were respecting the tuition freeze.

"Raising ancillary fees has the same effect as raising tuition fees — it decreases accessibility," he said.

The Québec government "has gotten quite talented at getting around the freeze in this manner," said Lavigne.

These cuts will come at a dire time for students and youth in Québec, as well as for the image of Lucien Bouchard's PQ.



DAILY PHOTO BY INGRID HEIN

Student pressure for tution hike freeze continues

Recent reports from Statistics Canada confirm what most people have known in Québec since last fall — the regional economy is going down the tubes, taking employment and social conditions with it.

Unemployment figures released last month showed that the province lost over 70 000 jobs in July, and that Montréal had the worst jobless level of any major city in Canada. Urban poverty on the island of Montréal is also the worst in Canada.

FOLLOWING THEIR FOOTSTEPS

Lavigne attacked the PQ's response to the problem, as well as their plans to reduce the deficit.

"By adopting the agenda of Harris and Klein in Quebec, the PQ are just entrenching the problems," he said. "They are using the same bad solutions to the same problems."

There will be less qualified people for less jobs as a consequence of the cuts, according to Lavigne.

Doesn't bode well

Da Silva agreed that the combination of PQ cuts to education and raising of tuition levels would change the face of post-secondary education in the province.

The cuts, along with the proposed piece-meal privitisation of the university proposed by McGill principal Bernard Shapiro would "create a two-tiered education system," she said.

"The haves will be able to come to McGill. The have-nots will be forced away."

The tuition increase will directly affect students, but might also affect other sectors of Québec society. Like many other issues in Quebec, the tuition increases might also have an effect on the PQ's campaign for Québec sovereignty.

ALIENATING SUPPORTERS

Along with labour unions, artists and intellectuals, francophone students have been one of the most important blocs of the sovereigntist coalition. The first leader of the Parti Québecois, former premier René Lévesque, placed a high priority on reforming and improving the post-secondary education system, and his party has been rewarded ever since with fervent support from both Québecois student alliances and regular students alike.

The cornerstone of this relationship was the promise in the mid-1970s to freeze university tuitions and keep CEGEPs tuition free.

Now, with the PQ about to break their promise, the support of francophone students may wane as well. Although none of the sovereigntist student groups — notably FEUQ and FECQ — commented directly on this issue, it would not be the first time that the policies of the Bouchard government have alienated parts of their traditional base of support.

For some student representatives, however, the next referendum is much further away than the next fiscal year.

Nikola DuCharme, from the student association at the Université de Québec à Montréal, wants students to focus on stopping the hike.

"If students mobilise now, the tuition hikes won't happen. But if we don't react now, it will happen," he said.

Lavigne agreed, urging direct action as the only way to stop the government's plans.

"[Former PQ premier Jacques] Parizeau realised after the January 25th demonstration that Quebec students could and would mobilise for access to education," he said.

"Maybe it is time to remind them again."

NOT ENOUGH GOOD HOMES FOR FIRST NATIONS

First Nations people living on reserves are facing a worsening housing crisis — and the government isn't doing enough about it.

That's what Assembly of First Nations Chief, Ovide Mercredi stated in a recent press release.

The Assembly's report was issued in response to a July 25 policy announcement from the federal Ministry of Indian Affairs. According to the Assembly, the Ministry's statement amounted to a conclusion that "if First Nations are to have better housing, they'll have to do it themselves." The policy report refers to "community control, local resources and flexibility in design," — phrases the Assembly says mask the fact that the government is passing the buck with regards to on-reserve housing, which is a federal responsibility under treaties. The Assembly also points out that because First Nations continue to be discriminated against in the labour market and denied their fair share of resources, the policy is unreal-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

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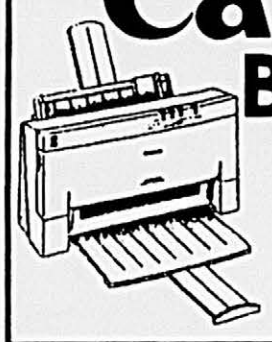

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While you were away and now that you're back

Police Brutality, Sit-ins and Recycling Centres

by Andrea Mason

DAILY PHOTO BY CHRIS KRALIK

HELL NO, WE WON'T GO!

From July 10 to 13, the Coalition of Québec Seniors and the Coalition to Save Social Programs occupied member of national assembly (MNA) André Boisclair's office to protest a new universal medical insurance plan. The proposal was announced by the PQ earlier this year. David Alper, of Project Genesis, a Montréal anti-poverty organisation, declared that the government fails to take into account people's capacity to pay. "It is an unjust law which targets those who can least afford to pay: welfare recipients and senior citizens," he commented. Despite the protest, the law went into effect on August 1. It requires every Québec resident to pay between a minimum premium of $175 per year to as much as $925 per year.

"LA VIOLENCE-CA NOUS FRAPPE"

A regional conference entitled

PHOTO FROM DAILY ARCHIVES

"La Violence-ca nous frappe" will be held on October 24 at the Palais de Justice de Montréal. Schools, CLSCs and community groups, Centre de jeunesse de Montréal, Mayor Pierre Bourque, MUC police chief Jacques Duchesneau and PQ Minister for the region of Montréal, Serge Menard will also attend.

The conference comes in response to clashes between police and youths, the worst of which occurred on August 19 in Berri Square. Several young people are under arrest as a result of the confrontation.

MCGILL BRAIN STUDY

On September 4, the Urban Development Commission approved McGill's plan to build a $6 million neurological research centre as part of the Montréal Neurological Institute. The building will be appearing near Molson Stadium this year.

NEW AIDS HOSPICE

The Urban Development Commission also approved a new AIDS hospice on Rue Ste. Famille just below Avenue des Pins. City Councillor for Notre-Dame-de-Grace, Sam Boskey, a member of the Commission commented that he was pleased to see no opposition raised and the motion passed smoothly.

CLASHES IN THE METRO

Montréal anti-poverty group Head and Hands is working in conjunction with the Québec Public Interest Research Group (QPIRG) to inform young people about their rights in the Metro. Complaints of vandalism and theft in various stations created a backlash by Metro police which involved handing out often unwarranted tickets to young people who were legitimately waiting for a train or simply meeting someone at a station.

HEPATITIS VACCINE AVAILABLE — FOR SOME

Head and Hands has also been authorised to give out the Hepatitis A vaccine. The donor of the vaccine has stipulated that the vaccine only be given to gay men. Head and Hands would like to make the vaccine available to anybody, but with the need for donations, they are bound to the specifications of donors.

WASTE NOT, WANT NOT

Ecology Montréal held a series of educational conferences over the summer and will be establishing the Ecology Montréal Club to address the principles of decentralised control, the reduction of waste and the importance of community co-operation.

Anyone interested can call 281-VERT.

COMPOST YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD

During the summer, Action Rebuts, in conjunction with la Ressourcerier, set up a reduce, reuse, recycle and compost community centre at 2025 Rue Masson. As well, the

DAILY PHOTO BY LUCY ATKINSON

organisation has submitted an eight point action plan to the public hearing on waste management over the summer, asking the city to block the solid waste incinerator. Action Re-buts asserts that one dozen such community centres would create 1 000 jobs and contribute to reducing waste by 50 per cent.

ENVIRONMENTAL PARTNERSHIPS

At the end of October, Action Re-buts will be involved in a summit which will establish partnerships between environmental groups, community groups and the public and private sector. Michel Seguin, of Action Re-buts hopes the summit will "put an end to cheap labour and create real jobs in the waste reduction sector."

NO HELMETS HERE

La Monde à Bicyclette submitted a memoir to the provincial government opposing proposed legislation which would make helmets mandatory for all cyclists. Hearings regarding the legislation will begin October 1.

NO MONEY FOR CAMP

The NDG Black Cultural Centre's long running summer day camp had to raise its prices this year in order to compensate for reduced government funding for counsellors' wages. As a result, the camp was unaffordable for some parents and enrolment dropped.

This fall, the cultural centre will be seeking funding for its Interracial, Intercultural Interaction program from Heritage Canada.

since 1911
The McGill Daily
vol 86 • no 3

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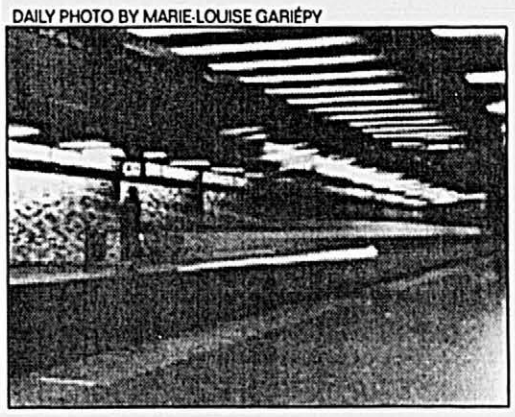
The Daily is a founding member of Canadian University Press and Presse étudiante du Québec.

Printed on 20% recycled paper.
ISSN 1192-4608

DAILY PHOTO BY MARIE-LOUISE GARIÉPY



Letters

Making a difference

To The Daily

Re: "Comment" of 29 August 1996 about McGill Security

Immediately following the publication of your Comment, I was contacted by Mr. Steve Paquin, Head of McGill Security, to request a meeting with me.

Mr. Paquin apologised to me for Mr. McDowell's conduct, and asked me to pass this apology on to you. He told me that it is in fact Security's practice to identify themselves to students when asked, and that Security agents are told that they are not peace officers and therefore have no special right to physically apprehend members of the public. Mr. Paquin was very conciliatory, and has asked me to help him work toward a better relationship between Security and the students of McGill.

Mr. McDowell, who was a Pinkerton's security guard, is no longer under contract with the University.

Don McGowan
Vice-President (University Affairs)
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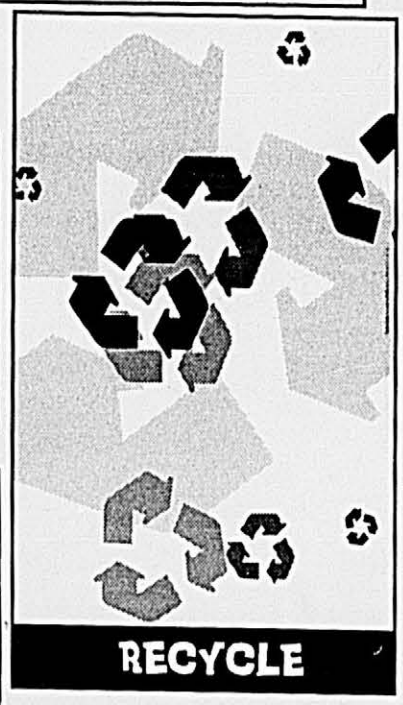

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FIRST NATIONS HOUSING CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

istic.

First Nations communities have been waiting for a government policy on housing since 1988, and many were disappointed by the Ministry's announcement.

While the policy will see a $140 million increase to the national housing budget over the next four years, Bill Namagoose of the Grand Council of Crees has described the amount as "a drop in the bucket when you consider that $3.2 billion is required to bring things up to the Canadian standard of living".

A large number of First Nations homes are either in a state of disrepair or overcrowded due to a housing shortage. Although the policy will see a $334 annual increase in funds for each First Nation household, this amount will likely be inadequate to meet the needs of repairing what is often substandard housing.

In fact, existing federal funding cannot keep pace with the number of on-reserve families forming each year. In the James Bay area in Québec alone, it is expected that in eight years time there will be a shortage of 1,500 housing units for the Cree community.

Elisabeth Robinson, a public health physician with the Cree Nation Board of Health, notes that the average number of people living in native households is higher than the national average.

The effects of overcrowding and sub-standard housing include depression and alcoholism. And with many First Nations homes lacking doors or walls which do not completely reach the ceiling there is little privacy, points out William Nicholls, a writer and editor at *the Nation*.

The conditions Nicholls refers to are, he explains, a legacy of the government's policy in the 1940s and 1950s. Known as the Buffalo Jump programme, it was an attempt to keep on-reserve living conditions so bad that people would want to leave for the city, where they were expected to assimilate.

Robinson adds that substandard housing and overcrowded homes have harmful "impacts on mental health, for example with something like incest," as well as physical symptoms such as asthma.

Despite the implications of the Government's announced policy and the negative response of First Nations communities, the media has paid little attention to it. That may be because the government chose to make the announcement in late July, when most journalists were away on holiday.

Or, as Nicholls suggests, it may be because many people still believe that the living conditions of First Nations communities are not so different than the rest of Canada's.

— Idella Sturino, with files from the Nation

Looking across the mountain

Art History plan steps towards New McGill

by Zachary Schwartz

The art history department may be taking one of the first steps towards a new McGill-steps over the mountain.

According to acting Chair Dr. J. Fossey, plans for a union between McGill's art history department and that of the Université de Montréal (U de M) are underway.

The partnership, if approved, will be one of the first of its kind at McGill, according to Fossey, who heralds the merger as a "marriage made in heaven."

"It's a cooperation where their weakness is our strength, and our weakness is their strength," says Fossey. "[U de M] is strong in traditional art history; we have [strengths in] ancient and medieval art and contemporary media."

But some returning art history students are concerned that they could be losing their department.

Before the summer began, many were upset to find a reduction in the number of faculty and courses offered. Worried about the future of the department, a group of students distributed flyers decrying the decrease in courses to Senate, McGill's main academic decision-making body.

According to art history professor Dr. John Marszal, the limited number of courses offered was "not out of the ordinary for such a small sized department."

McGill's art history department currently has under ten faculty members.

STUDENT INPUT LACKING

In recent meeting with SSMU VP University Affairs Don McGowan, Dean of Arts Carmen Miller explained the reduction as a consequence of the pressures facing McGill.

Miller described McGill's art history department as singularly victimised by early retirements and budget cuts, said McGowan.

McGowan sees the department as an example of the changes in store for McGill-changes that should be made with more student input.

McGowan is skeptical of the proposed twinning with U de M. He believes that the partnership with a francophone university will limit the number of courses available to McGill students because of a potential language barrier.

Although U de M may offer its programme as bilingual, he suspects that this simply means some courses will be taught in French and others in English.

Fossey insists the proposed partnership will enrich the department, and that McGill's own art history department's course offerings will not be compromised.

"Nobody is obliged to take a course anywhere else," he says. "They'll be strongly encouraged to take advantage of the expertise [of U de M]."

Fossey envisions a partnership where courses at McGill and U de M will be crosslisted in each school's course calendars. He believes McGill's department can benefit from visiting sessions taught by U de M's larger programme, and vice-versa.

"It's not just students who will be travelling over the mountain,"he says.

The plan still requires the approval of the Dean of Arts.

Meanwhile, McGowan and Fossey say that few students have approached them to air their views on the changes facing the department.

An open meeting is scheduled for tomorrow at McGill' art history department.

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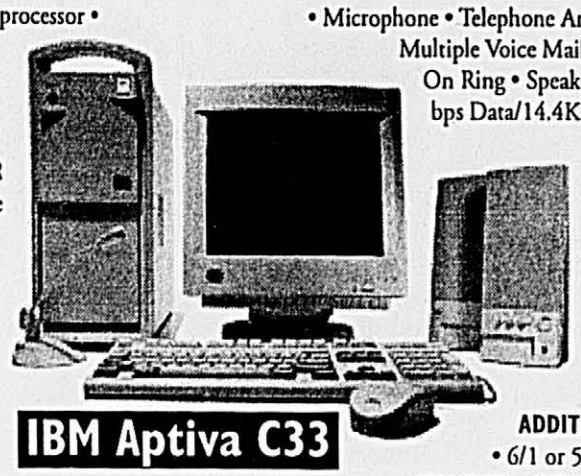

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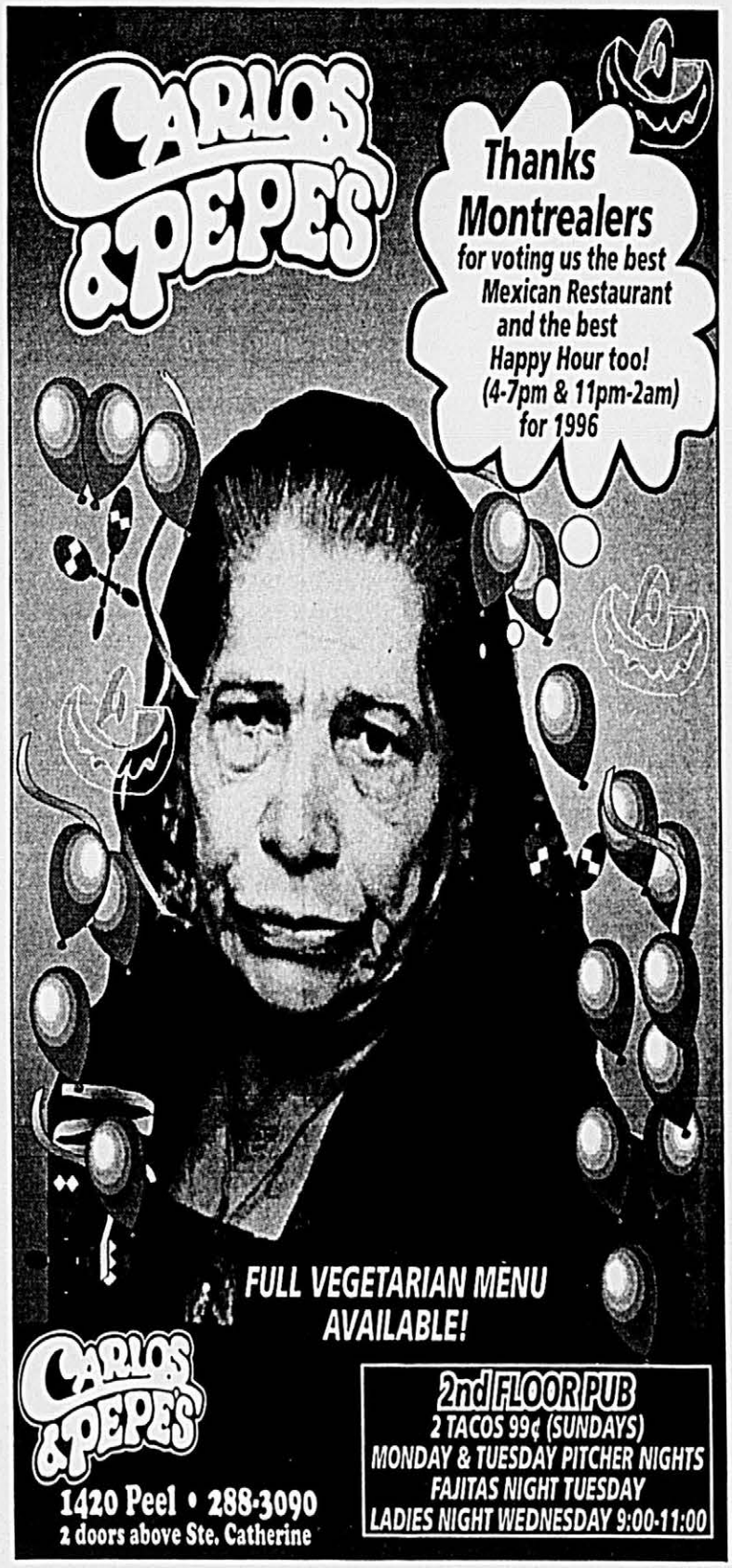


A GATHERING OF INTER

An account of the encounter for I

text and photos by Joanne Matulis

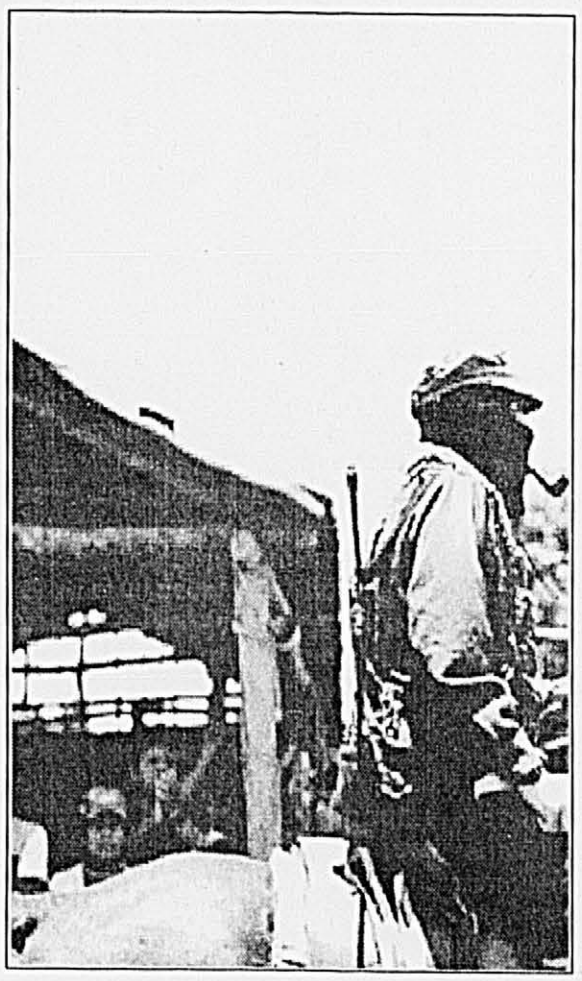
Joanne Matulis was part of the Canadian delegation that attended the Intercontinental Encounter for Humanity & against Neo-liberalism in Chiapas, Mexico from July 27 to August 3. She is a member of the Mexico Solidarity Network.

The Zapatistas in Mexico do a lot of things differently in comparison with previous insurgency movements in Latin America. In January of this year, Subcomandante Marcos, the charismatic spokesperson for the Zapatista Army of National Liberation (EZLN) announced the Encounter for Humanity and Against Neo-liberalism. The initiative was intended to bring together world-wide experiences under neoliberal ideologies and find strategies to reverse this universal trend. Marcos described neoliberalism as a "repressive power" which pits the system against human beings.

The response to his announcement was 3,000 Mexicans and internationals from 43 countries convening in Chiapas, Mexico during the week-long conference in August. In attendance, were non-governmental organisations (NGOs), political militants, international solidarity activists, indigenous peoples, representatives of community groups and intellectuals.

Five Zapatista communities hosted the event in aguascalientes — centres of resistance — which were equipped with dormitories and an amphitheater among other amenities for the event.

The inauguration took place in the community of Oventic, located in the highlands of Chiapas. Upon their arrival the different delegations made their way towards the grandstands, decorated with colourful banners and flags representing the origins of the guests who came from as far as Japan, the Philippines and Oceania. The Madres del Plaza de Mayo — mothers of the disappeared in Argentina — could be seen in their distinctive white kerchiefs within the crowd.



Members of the communities, the base of support of the EZLN, wearing balaclavas and bandanas to cover their faces, lined the way to greet the intercontinentals. Commandante David, in the traditional Tzetzil tunic and ribbon-adorned hat, repeated at various times that "here, there is room enough for everyone."

"In any place in the world, anytime, any man or woman rebels to the point of tearing off the clothes that resignation has woven for them and that cynicism has dyed grey. Any man, any woman, of whatever color in whatever tongue, says and says to himself, to herself, "Enough already—Ya Basta!" — Subcomandante Marcos

That spirit of inclusion predominated across the representation of a wide array of communities in struggle, such as the landless movement in Brazil and feminist groups in Italy.

NAFTA A "DEATH SENTENCE"

The southernmost state of the republic, Chiapas, has a legacy of extreme poverty and discrimination against its mostly indigenous population. Free-trade with North America, implemented on January 1, 1994, was the last straw. Zapatista insurgents rose up to defend themselves from an economic order which they feel is a "death sentence" for native peoples in Mexico.

"To the powers that be — today known internationally by the word 'neo-liberalism' — we [the indigenous communities] did not count, we did not produce, we did not buy, we did not sell," reiterated Major Ana Maria in the welcoming speech at the conference.

Since February of last year, 60,000 federal military troops have occupied the state in a counter-insurgency campaign. This was evident at the economics forum which was held in Roberto Barrios aguascalientes, a northern community 200 meters from a Mexican federal army camp.

Situated some 10 hours by bus from Oventic, this area has been the site of extreme violence committed by paramilitary groups. According to an investigation by the Fray Bartolome de las Casas Centro de Derecho Humano — a human rights NGO — 1,400 people have fled their homes to take refuge in the mountains away from their communities; 120 of them are women, men and children who have been in hiding for over one month.

During the visit to Roberto Barrios the delegates first had their visas inspected by a customs official stationed at the encampment. When the delegates walked

through the remainder of the base, they were being filmed

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RNATIONAL RESISTANCE

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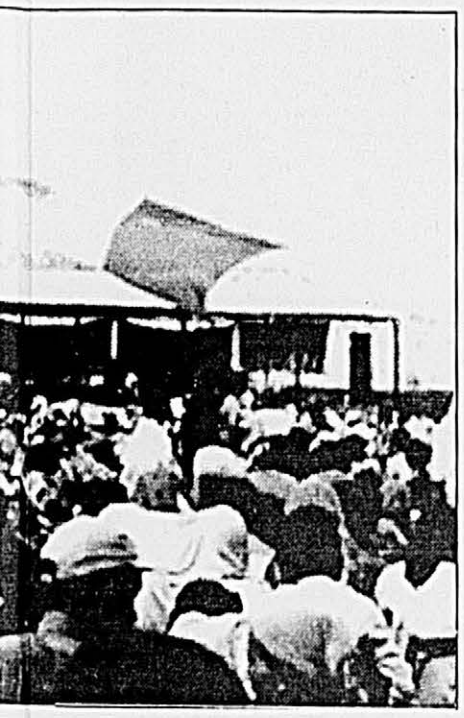

by soldiers. The next obstacle was a natural one—a shallow river with a rocky bottom to cross. Some waded to the other side in their boots, others braved the stony riverbed to cross barefoot. And on the opposite bank, all were met by shin-deep mud.

In all, 466 made the journey to attend at this particular work group. Following two days of intense discussions at the sub-tables which members of the EZLN attended but did not speak at, each group presented their conclusions based on the exchanges.

The consensus was that increased poverty, alienation, exploitation, racism and inequality between women and men are the direct effects of globalised economies. It was concluded that in response to this phenomenon, resistance must be internationalised not only in solidarity but also to find alternatives to the present crisis.

However, it was decided that this does not mean that each collective in struggle must sacrifice its own course in order to follow that of a social project.

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A NEW WAY OF DOING POLITICS

Perhaps the most provocative alternative to emerge from the Encounter is the political vision of the Zapatistas. During the closing of the session in Roberto Barrios, EZLN commandante Vincente stood-up and reiterated the inner-workings of the Zapatista struggle for democracy, liberty and justice.

"At the workgroup which I attended, I heard a person say that we [the EZLN] really intend to seize power. No, we do not want that, rather [we want] true democracy for all which reflects the true voice of all peoples. We want nothing for ourselves, and everything for everyone."

This way of doing politics is known as mandar obedeciendo — to direct by obeying — through consultation with the popular bases who chart the course of the struggle. Their will is the political mandate of the movement and stipulates the action to be taken by leadership. Power resides within the base of support and the collective nature of decision making ensures inclusion.

> ***"There are those who resign themselves to being one more number in the huge bolsa—pouch...—of Power. There are those who resign themselves to being slaves.... But there are those who do not resign themselves, there are those who decide to be uncomfortable, there are those who do not sell themselves, there are those who do not surrender themselves."***
> ***— Subcomandante Marcos***

Delegate groups from the rest of the aguascalientes similarly concluded to resist together and united while each being different and autonomous.

After days of work, nights of dancing and music, and hours of bus travel along unpaved roads, everyone reconvened in the community of La Realidad for the final phase.

The concluding speech by Subcomandante Marcos crystallised all ideas that came out of the aguascalientes discussions. He read the "Second Declaration of la Realidad" which underscored the creation of a horizontal international network of resistance against neo-liberalism..

"For struggling for a better world all of us are fenced in, threatened with death. The fence is reproduced globally," he began.

But, he continued that there is room for change because "fences are broken. In every house, in every rural area, in every city, in every state, in every country, on every continent the history of humanity repeats along its entire course to assure itself of hope, struggle and the fence shakes."

> ***"May the five continents speak and everyone listen. May humanity suspend for a moment its silence of shame and anguish. May humanity speak. May humanity listen...."***
> ***— Subcomandante Marcos***

BRINGING IT HOME

The Canadian delegation to the conference included 30 people from the Latin American solidarity community and social rights defense groups. Antonio de Jesus from the Centre for Philippine Concerns felt that the Encounter "has shown that more and more people are opening their eyes to the effects of neo-liberalism. They've had enough of policies that benefit the minority of the rich."

A day of action in Toronto against the cut backs to social programmes made by the Ontario government was mentioned as one way to fight the corporate agenda which preoccupies our governments.

It was thought that in Canada the spirit of the Encounter for Humanity conference can be applied to create the local space to discuss and exchange ways to voice popular opposition to devastating economic policies.

For more information on the net:
http://physics.mcgill.ca/~oscarh/EncuentroIntercontinental/Welcome.html

ATTENTION ALL STUDENTS

Rhodes Scholarships

Eleven Rhodes Scholarships are now open for Canadian students. These Scholarships are tenable at the University of Oxford, England, and the value is approximately £12,000 per year. They are granted for two years with the possibility of a third year. The winners will be required to commence their studies in October 1997. The eleven Scholarships are allotted, three to the Western Region (Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta), two to each of Ontario, Quebec and the Maritime Region (New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island) and one each to British Columbia and Newfoundland.

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2. have been born between 2 October 1972 and 1 October 1978;
3. except for medical students, have received an undergraduate degree before taking up the scholarship.

Information available:

Office of the Dean of Students
3637 Peel Street, Room 211

Information Sessions will be held as follows:

Thursday 29 August at 3:00 p.m.
Thursday 5 September 1996 at 10:00 a.m.
Monday 9 September 1996 at 2:30 p.m.
Wednesday 11 September 1996 at 10:30 a.m.
Friday 13 September 1996 at 1:00 p.m.
Tuesday 17 September 1996 at 1:30 p.m.

Application Forms will be distributed ONLY at Information Sessions.

DEADLINE: WEDNESDAY 25 SEPTEMBER 1996

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(NOTE: American students can obtain information on the Rhodes Scholarships competition for their home state from this office.)

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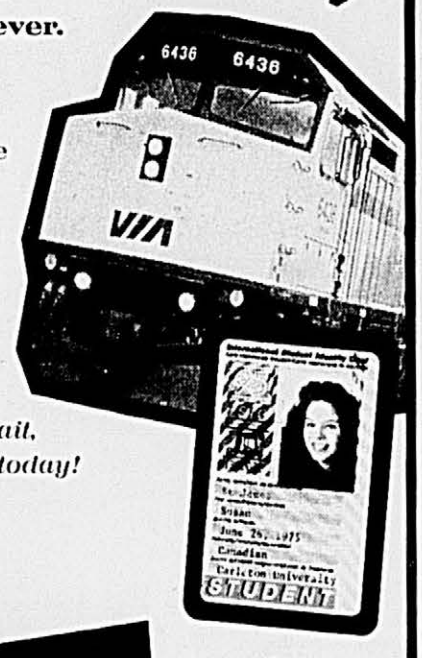

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Open Information Meeting

September 10, 1996 6 P.M.
at Thomson House

Food will be served

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McGill's TA Union

Daily photo by David Ryhter

Down with the golden arches

Residents protest the coming of McDonald's and Petro Canada

On Thursday, September 5, 250 demonstrators converged on the corner of Mount Royal and Parc Avenues to protest the construction of a Mc Donald's and the addition of a 24-hour dépanneur on to the existing Petro Canada gas station.

The protest was organised by Éco-Quartier Mile-End, a citizen's group concerned with improving the quality of life in the district. The group is concerned that the construction will increase traffic at an already busy and dangerous corner.

In addition, residents feel the development will be an unsightly addition to the area, whose other buildings were constructed between 1905 and 1915. They object to the addition of a mass of steel and glass among the graceful stone architecture of the other buildings and the vast green expanse of Mount Royal park.

Finally, local merchants are afraid the arrival of a large multinational company will signal the death of the small, family-owned businesses which dominate the area at present.

Later last evening, protestors won half the battle. The Commission of Urban Development voted unanimously to reject the plans to expand the Petro Canada and add the dépanneur. However, the city gave the go-ahead to the McDonald's. It will be appearing on the corner of Park and Mt. Royal a month from now.

—*Andrea Mason*

Waiting for legal protection

Newfoundland stalls on the right of sexual orientation

By David Cochrane

St. John's (CUP) — Newfoundland's gay community is still waiting for legal protection from discrimination four years after a government report proposed changing the Human Rights Act.

Newfoundland has the dubious distinction of being one of four provinces and one territory in Canada which has not specifically included protection for gays in its Human Rights Act.

The government however, has indicated it will introduce legislation to remedy that in the fall. But critics say the government was forced into the move.

Earlier this year, a Newfoundland judge ruled that discrimination based on sexual orientation was illegal.

This set a precedent in a case law which effectively read sexual orientation protection into the province's human rights code.

The government successfully appealed the decision saying they wanted the legislature to be the province's lawmaking body, not the courts.

The government followed the appeal with a promise to introduce the legislation this fall.

"The current government is very upset with the courts for having imposed this on them," said Mike Riehl of Newfoundland Gays and Lesbians for Equality

"The courts have said 'What you are doing is unconstitutional and you must provide equal rights for gays and lesbians in this province.'"

Sexual orientation protection was first proposed to the provincial government in a 1992 research document from the Provincial Advisory Council on the Status of Women.

The report made 22 recommendations. At the top of the list was that protection from discrimination based on sexual orientation be added to the Human Rights Code

"I think the government doing that would send a message to society that this [protection for sexual orientation] is an issue for all of us," said Joyce Hancock, president of the advisory council.

"Its not about tolerating people who have been marginalised, it's about accepting [them]."

Hancock said she hasn't heard that people in the government don't think there will be [a problem]," said Hancock. "But I have no reason to believe [the government] because we haven't heard them speak out or express that they feel comfortable with this legislation."

This legislation could also affect the religious and politically charged issue of denominational education reform.

The province is in the process of taking control of the secondary education system. The system has been run by the church since Newfoundland joined confederation.

Since Brian Tobin came into office at the beginning of this year, he has softened the reform proposal from what was originally intended by the Wells government.

Hancock said the current direction of reform will remove the churches from decisions on spending, but will leave them in charge of hiring and firing of teachers.

'By our constitution, Churches were given the right to discriminate. By that I mean they have the right to hire and fire homosexuals simply because they are gay," said Hancock.

"If things proceed as they are now, they will still have that right."

Hancock said that this legislation will give homosexual teachers that extra level of protection they need.

"The homosexual teachers who spoke in this (1992) study were in great fear of being outed by anyone because they knew their employment status was at a risk."

Concordia bans book distribution

UQAM STUDENT FIGHTS TO HAND OUT BOOK ON CAMPUS

by Anup Grewal

Two years after he was forcibly removed from Concordia University's downtown campus for distributing his book, Abraham Weizfeld is planning to take the Concordia administration to court.

In an exchange with Concordia's Legal Counsel, Bram Freedman, the University de Québec à Montréal (UQAM) doctoral student stated, "I have read the document..., *Distribution of Publications on Campus*, again and I still do not find any reference to the distribution of a book in either [of] the definitions."

Arguing that Concordia has no reason to stop him from distributing his controversial work, *The End of Zionism and the Liberation of the Jewish People*, on the campus, Weizfeld is suing the University for compensation for the four hours he spend in jail and for the costs of the trial he underwent in June of this year.

Weizfeld's troubles began in 1994 when he went to Concordia's Hall building to hand out his book, which he describes as a collection of "Jewish dissident writings which show that there is a broad range of material in the Jewish Community that is not Zionist."

According to Weizfeld, he was distributing his work and talking to students "as a political action" when he was asked by a Concordia Security official to leave the building since he did not have official permission to be there.

Weizfeld then went to the office of the Dean at Concordia and was told that his book was not objectionable on political grounds, nor was it deemed hate literature; yet, according to Weizfeld, the Dean's office told him that his presence was still deemed "undesirable."

Ignoring this justification, Weizfeld returned to his place in the Hall building and was soon confronted by two members of the Montréal City Police force, who then arrested him. The initial charge for his arrest was "obstruction of police," later changed to "assault of police."

In June of this year, Weizfeld was acquitted of this charge due to a lack of evidence.

Since his acquittal, Weizfeld has continued trying to distribute his book on Concordia's campus, but opposition to his actions remains.

Freedman, as Concordia's Legal Counsel, defends the University's position towards Weizfeld: "Our policy is that, for a variety of reasons, we do not allow people to distribute material in our buildings." One of these reasons, Freedman explains, is "traffic movement" — the obstruction of movement through the building if too many people are standing around handing things out.

Freedman says that the University does not allow anyone to distribute material in its buildings unless part of a recognised student group which has permission to do so. Thus, says Freedman, Concordia took the same policy towards Weizfeld that it would towards anyone, including the guy who wants to give out "Cumberland fliers."

But Weizfeld sees it differently. He claims that as a doctoral student in Québec, he has the right to distribute and discuss his work on any campus in the province. He backs up his claim by the Carte de présentation issued by the Conférence des recteurs et des principaux des Universités du Québec, which he says gives access to doctoral students to all University campuses.

But Freedman claims he doesn't know of the document to which Weizfeld is referring, adding that it is "probably something to give access to the libraries."

Weizfeld also points out his protection under the Québec Academic Code which he says protects the free circulation of academic material that does not promote hatred. He claims that since Concordia said it did not view his material as 'hateful', it was not justified in its actions.

Furthermore, since his acquittal, Weizfeld has been trying to go through the University channels in order to return to Concordia to distribute his book. Yet, Concordia seems to continue equating Weizfeld's requests to distribute his academic work with requests from Cumberland to hand out sales fliers.

For Weizfeld, his troubles are very much about the role of universities for students. "The University administration is making a joke of universities. If you can't initiate a discussion by distributing a book on the campus, then it calls into question why the University exists," insists Weizfeld.

Weizfeld says the book is being met with such opposition because it goes against "the official ideology and prejudice of the state of the Canada which supports Zionism and seeks to de-legitimise other Jewish opinions."

Freedman, however, feels that "it is unfortunate" that Weizfeld has chosen to "interpret" Concordia's removal of him because of the nature of his material. He says that Concordia would not stop Weizfeld from distributing his material outside of the Concordia buildings, as long as he was not causing a disturbance.

But this is no consolation for Weizfeld, especially since he attempted that very thing on McTavish street, outside McGill's Shatner University Centre, an area frequently used for the distribution of fliers, pamphlets and community literature.

Weizfeld claims that he was "threatened by Security" and told that his work was "controversial."

McGill's Physical Resources policy states that no one can distribute material on the University's property without permission, but anyone is free to do so on public streets — like McTavish.

Events Events Events Events

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

• **SSMU** presents Open Forum: SSMU Student Health Plan, Sept. 10, 16h-18h in Shatner 302. SSMU wants opinions on possibility of adding dental coverage, other issues. Info.: Jon Chomski, 398-6802.

• **RECLAIM (The Reading Council for Literary Advance in Montreal)** seeking volunteers Information sessions Sept. 10, 11 at 12h15 and 17h15. Inf.: RECLAIM, 739-3750.

• **Lesbians, Bisexuals, Gays and Transgenders of McGill (LBGTM)** holds first planning meeting, Shatner 432, 19h.

• **The McGill Varsity Baseball Team** play Ottawa University Gee-Gee's.. Info: Adrian Currie, 931-0215.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

• **Activities Night**, presented by SSMU. Check out McGills' clubs Shatner University Centre Ballroom and Cafeteria, 17h-21h. Info: 398-6800.

• **The Montréal Student Performing Arts Network** presents performance of *The Night the Tiger was Captured* by Tian Han on lower campus around an open fire at 19h. Following play, Dr. Randy Barbara Kaplan discusses the play and author. Admission: voluntary donation to Amnesty International. Info: 529-5295.

• **McGill Marxist-Leninist Study Group** presents first in a series of weekly discussions: "Contemporary Marxist-Leninist Thought," Shatner 435, 18h30. Info: 421-2400.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

• **Parachuting** for those interested in exciting experience. Information session will be held Sept. 12, 12h, Jump date Sept. 21. Info: Francis McKee- Newman Centre, 398-4106.

• **Centre d'études arabes pour le développement** presents "Le Liban entre deux guerres," host Ali Daher at 19h. Info: Hamouda Soubhi, 982-6606.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

• **The McGill Spanish and Latin American Students Association (SALSA)** presents *Carnaval Latino '96*. Festival held outdoors on lower campus, admission free. Night party moves to Tahaa Beach Club, admission $5/$6. Info: 398-6658.

• **LBGTM's** "Welcome back" wine and cheese at UTC (3521 University, at Milton), 19h. New people. New fall activities All welcome.

UPCOMING/ONGOING

• **McGill Centre for Research and Teaching on Women (MCRTW)** holding Women's Studies Luncheon: MCRTW Seminar Room (3487 Peel St.). Sept. 19, 12h30-14h. Professors present answering questions about new Major program, available courses. Info: 398-3911.

• **McGill Taiwanese Students' Association** "Welcome Party" Sept. 14, 18h, Shatner Ballroom.

• **Literacy Partners of Québec** seeking volunteers interested in becoming literacy tutors. Info: 931-8731, ext. 1413.

• **Tel-Aide** 24 hour listening service seeking volunteers. Info: 935-1105.

• **La Maison de Jeunes Côte-des-Neiges** seeking volunteers for Mentor Program. Info: Sandra, 342-5235.

• **Hillel Jewish Student Centre** (3460 Stanley St.) offers Hebrew Conversation classes: beginner -intermediate Info: 845-9171.

• **NDG Black Cultural Centre** needs tutors for after school tutorial program. Info: Egien Scotland, 481-3598.

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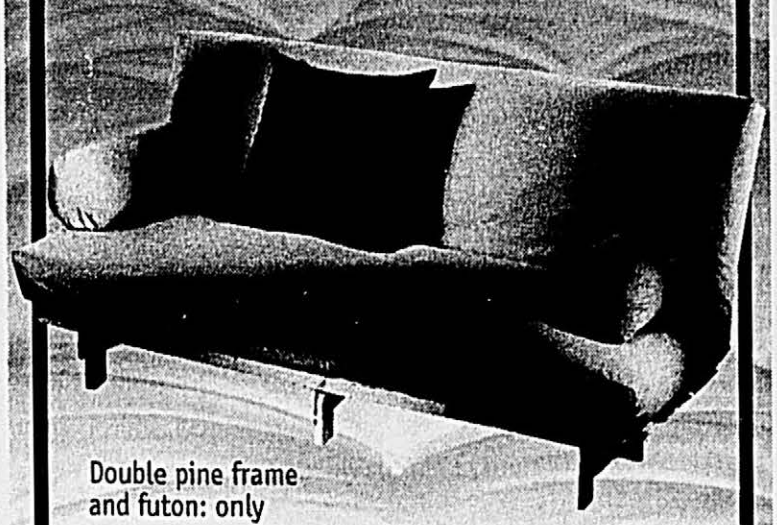

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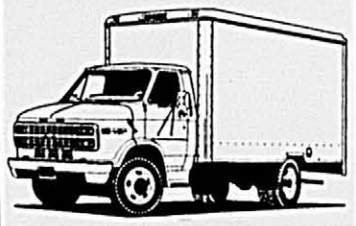

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CRUISE SHIPS HIRING

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Earn up to $2,000+ per month working for Cruise Ships or Land-Tour Companies. World Travel (Hawaii, Mexico, the Caribbean, etc.). Seasonal and Full-Time employment available. No exp. necessary. For info call:

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HELP WANTED

Travel-Teach English CGTI offers in Mont. a 1 wk (Oct 23-27) eve/wkend intensive course to certify you as a teacher of English (TESOL) 1,000's of overseas jobs available. Now! Free info pak (403) 438-5704.

Earn $100-200/day Master School of Bartending– bartending & table service. Complete placement agency. Leaders in the hospitality industry for 15yrs. McGill rate. 849-2828.

Royal Victoria
Home Child Care Agency is seeking caregivers to open O.S.G.E. regulated day care homes. Extended hours needed. 843-1574.

Bistro/Café seeks assistant manager & baker. Experience needed. Send CV to 1110 Sherbrooke St. West suite 301 Montreal, Que. H3A 1G9 or fax 844-0328 Att Dorothy.

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Sample of past internship placements in border.

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McGill CAMPUS REC

DEPARTMENT OF ATHLETICS
Campus Recreation
Fall 1996

INTRAMURAL SPORTS PROGRAM - FALL 1996

SPORT	CATEGORY	COST GST & PST Included	REGISTRATION	NUMBER OF PLAYERS		CAPTAINS' MEETING	PLAY BEGINS	GAME DAYS AND TIMES	LOCATION
				TO REGISTER	MAXIMUM				
BADMINTON TOURNAMENT	MEN WOMEN DOUBLES	$7.00 per player	Oct. 16, 09:00 to Oct. 23, 17:00	1	N/A	Draw posted Campus Rec Office Oct. 24, 17:00 hrs.	Oct. 26	Oct. 26 & 27 10:00 - 18:00 hrs.	Gymnasium
BASKETBALL LEAGUE	MEN A,B WOMEN	$70.00 per team	Sept. 17, 09:00 to Sept 24, 17:00	10	16	Sept. 24 18:30 hrs. Fieldhouse	Sept.29	Mon. 19:30-22:30 Tue. 17:30-22:30 Sun. 11:00-18:00	Fieldhouse A & B
FLAG FOOTBALL LEAGUE	MEN WOMEN	$70.00 per team	Sept. 3, 09:00 to Sept. 10, 17:00	12	18	Sept. 10, 18:30 hrs. Fieldhouse	Sept.14	Mon. 18:00-21:00 Fri. 18:00-21:00 Sat. 09:00-17:00 Sun. 09:00-17:00	Forbes Field and Lower Campus
HOCKEY LEAGUE (FALL & WINTER)	MEN A,B,C WOMEN	$400.00 per team	Sept.18, 08:30 to 17:00	13	20	Sept. 18, 18:30 hrs. Gymnasium, Rm. 408	Sept.23	Mon. 19:15-00:30 Tue. 20:15-00:30 Wed. 19:15-00:30 Fri. 19:15-00:30 Sun. 13:30-23:30	McConnell Winter Stadium
SOCCER LEAGUE	MEN A,B,C WOMEN	$100.00 per team	Sept. 3, 09:00 to Sept. 10, 17:00	13	20	Sept. 10, 18:30 hrs. Fieldhouse	Sept.14	Mon. to Thur. 21:00-23:30 Sat. & Sun. 09:00-23:00	Molson Stadium
SOFTBALL LEAGUE	MEN CO-REC	$70.00 per team	Sept. 3, 09:00 to Sept. 10, 17:00	Men - 12 Co-rec - 7 Men & 5 Women	18	Sept. 10, 18:30 hrs. (Men & Co-Rec) Fieldhouse	Sept.14	Mon. to Fri. 16:00-18:00 Sat. 09:00-18:00 Sun. 09:00-18:00	Middle Field and Molson Stadium
TENNIS TOURNAMENT (OUTDOOR)	MEN A,B WOMEN	$7.00 per player	Sept. 3, 09:00 to Sept. 10, 17:00	1	N/A	Draw posted Campus Rec Office Sept. 11, 17:00 hrs.	Sept.12	Sept. 12 to 15	Forbes Field Tennis Courts
ULTIMATE LEAGUE	CO-REC	$70.00 per team	Sept. 3, 09:00 to Sept. 10, 17:00	5 Men & 5 Women	18	Sept. 10, 18:30 hrs. Fieldhouse	Sept.14	Sat. 09:00-17:00 Sun. 09:00-17:00	Forbes Field
VOLLEYBALL LEAGUE	MEN WOMEN	$70.00 per team	Sept.17, 09:00 to Sept. 24,17:00	10	16	Sept. 24, 18:30 hrs. Fieldhouse	Sept.30	Mon. 19:15-22:30 Tue. 19:15-22:30 Wed. 19:15-22:30	Gymnasium 1 & 2
VOLLEYBALL LEAGUE	CO-REC A,B	$70.00 per team	Sept.17, 09:00 to Sept. 24,17:00	5 Men & 5 Women	16	Sept. 24, 18:30 hrs. Fieldhouse	Oct. 2	Wed. 19:30-22:30 Thur. 17:00-22:30 Fri. 19:00-22:30	Fieldhouse A & B
3 ON 3 VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENT	MEN WOMEN	$20.00 per team	Nov. 12, 09:00 to Nov. 19, 17:00	3	4	Draw posted Campus Rec Office Nov. 21, 17:00 hrs.	Nov. 23	Nov. 23 & Nov. 24	Fieldhouse
WATERPOLO LEAGUE	MEN WOMEN	$80.00 per team	Sept.17, 09:00 to Sept. 24,17:00	10	16	Sept. 24, 18:30 hrs. Fieldhouse	Sept.28	Sat. 15:00-17:30 Sun. 14:00-17:30	Currie Pool

- In many sports space is limited — registration is on a first come first served basis.
- Please note that registration deadlines are strictly enforced.
- A representative from each team must attend the captains' meeting for that sport.

Registration: Campus Recreation Office G35 Sports Complex, 475 Pine Avenue West

The Instructional Program has Something for Everyone!!

Course Registration Begins

Wednesday, September 11, 1996
08:00 - 18:00 hrs.

SPORTS COMPLEX
475 PINE

Courses offered in the areas of:

Aquatics	Martial Arts
Dance	Outdoor Pursuits
Fitness	Racquets
Varia	

Most classes begin the week of September 16, 1996

PAY-AS-YOU-GO FITNESS

Through the fall and winter, the Department will be offering an exciting **Pay-As-You-Go Fitness** program. Classes will feature Step and Aerobics. Both activities are designed for a total body workout.

Step is a challenging low impact class based around stepping onto an adjustable platform.

Aerobics is an upbeat, advanced high impact class.

SCHEDULE:

Aerobics:	Tuesday & Thursday	17:30 - 18:25 hrs.
	Friday	16:00 - 16:55 hrs.
	Saturday, Sunday	12:00 - 12:55 hrs.
Step:	Mon/Wed/Fri	17:00 - 17:55 hrs.
	Saturday, Sunday	13:00 - 13:55 hrs.
Cost:	Sports Complex Members	$1 .70*/$2.50/class

Tickets go on sale in the Sports Complex 15 minutes before class.
***Book of 10 tickets for $17.00 purchased in advance (members only).**

INFORMATION • 398-7011